

PATENT
Docket No.: CX03021USU (03CXT0033D)
Serial No.: 10/750,989

REMARKS

STATUS SUMMARY

Claims 1-50 are pending in the present application. Claims 31-36, 39 and 40 are allowed. Claims 1, 11, 13, 37 and 41-45 presently stand rejected. Claims 2-10, 12, 14-30, 38 and 46-50 are objected to. In the present Amendment, claims 2, 12, 14, 27, 29 and 46 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 41 and 47 have been amended. Claims 51-76 have been added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 11, 13, 37 and 41-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ouacha (U.S. Patent No. 6,900,695). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection because Ouacha fails to teach each and every element or feature recited in the rejected claims. Nonetheless, to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 41 in the manner discussed below. Applicant intends to prosecute one or more of the rejected claims as presented prior to the present amendments in a related application.

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the elements or features of dependent claim 2. The Examiner objected to claim 2 as being dependent upon rejected base claim 1, but indicated that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 as amended is in condition for allowance.

Claims 11, 13 and 37 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and therefore are likewise in condition for allowance.

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In view of the amendment made to claim 1, Applicant has canceled claims 2, 12, 14, 27 and 29 without prejudice. In addition, Applicant has amended dependent claims 3, 6 and 10 so that they now depend from claim 1.

Independent claim 41 has been amended by incorporating the elements or features of dependent claim 46. The Examiner objected to claim 46 as being dependent upon rejected base claim 41, but indicated that claim 46 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 41 as amended is in condition for allowance.

Claims 42-45 depend directly or indirectly from claim 41, and therefore are likewise in condition for allowance.

In view of the amendment made to claim 41, Applicant has canceled claim 46 without prejudice. In addition, Applicant has amended dependent claim 47 so that it now depends from claim 41.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 11, 13, 37 and 41-45 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Ouacha, and therefore requests that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS/NEW CLAIMS

Claims 2-10, 12, 14-30, 38 and 46-50 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of these objections, Applicant has added new claims 51-76, as discussed below for the convenience of the Examiner.

The objections to claim 2 and 46 are discussed above.

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Independent claim 51 combines the features or elements of claim 1 and objected-to claim 15.

Claims 52-67 depend directly or indirectly from claim 51, and include language that is the same as or similar to objected-to claims 16-30 and 38. Claims 68-76 also depend directly or indirectly from claim 51, and include language that is the same as or similar to objected-to claims 2-10.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests entry and allowance of new claims 51-76.

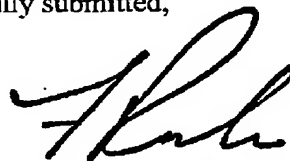
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CONCLUSION

In light of the above Amendments and Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Official Action.

Respectfully submitted,



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By:

Francisco A. Rubio-Campos
Registration No. 45,358
Attorney for Applicant
Phone: (949) 448-9410
Fax: (714) 948-8903

The Eclipse Group
26895 Aliso Creek Road
Suite B-104
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656-5301

Customer No.: 34408